

TALENT AS A TRUST

By Ada Brownell

Read: 2 Chronicles 14 and 15.

King Asa ruled Israel as enemies' armor clanked nearby, the sun gleamed from their swords, and their marching feet made the Israelites' hearts and the ground tremble. In desperation, Asa decided to work to bring his nation back to serving God.

The Lord encourages us to work, too, in these perilous times, to bring people to Salvation.

I'm a writer and good writing is hard work. It's more than sitting down to the computer. Prayer, thinking through ideas, research, and staying in touch with publishing and marketing experts who nudge important professional techniques out of the rumples of my brain help me create and complete my tasks.

A new era in publishing sneaked on us during our nation's financial crisis. Many newspapers and magazines are in peril. Yet, the internet opens new and existing markets to writers' talents. We have almost immediate access to publishers' guidelines. Instant publishing is available on blogs. We can market books from a website or on ebay,

Writing, however, remains work.

The prophet told Asa, "Be strong and do not give up, for your work shall be rewarded" (2 Chronicles 15:7NIV).

Years ago in a time of discouragement the Lord gave me that verse and I was amazed at how God blessed my ministry.

Thought for today: "Those given a trust must prove faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2NIV).

PRAYER: Lord, help me to be a proper trustee of my talents and the gospel.

--Ada Nicholson Brownell